MAYOR JERRY SANDERS
COUNCILMEMBER DONNA FRYE
CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Press Release

SANDERS & FRYE ANNOUNCE SAN DIEGO'S SUPPORT FOR EARTH HOUR 2009
Joins Tens of Millions in Turning Off Non-Essential Lights for Largest Climate Event in History

SAN DIEGO, CA – Mayor Jerry Sanders and Councilmember Donna Frye announced today that the City of San Diego will support and urge residents to participate in Earth Hour 2009, a global climate event led by the World Wildlife Fund. Over 2,750 towns and cities around the world have already committed to go dark for one hour on March 28, 2009, at 8:30 p.m., as millions of people from all corners of the world unite in a call for global action on climate change.

Sanders said, "Last year, the region reduced its electrical demand by about 75 megawatts during Earth Hour – enough power for about 50,000 homes. But it's also important to note that every day, the city is actively promoting innovations and choices that will have a real impact on climate change."

Frye commented, "Turning non-essential lights off in all city government buildings will serve as an important rallying point for our city-wide energy conservation efforts in support of Earth Hour 2009."

During Earth Hour 2008, more than 50 million people in over 1,000 cities on all seven continents turned off their lights as major icons also went dark, including the Sydney Opera House, the Coliseum in Rome, Stockholm's Royal Castle, the Empire State Building and the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco. Google turned its homepage black for an entire day in tribute.

From Amman to Warsaw, city skylines will go dark for one hour as individuals, businesses, government buildings, schools and major landmarks turn off non-essential lighting in what will be the largest climate event in history. The list of other participating cities in the US includes Atlanta, Chicago, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Miami and Nashville.

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